



## • INFO memo - Sept. 5, 2003

City of Broken Arrow  
P.O. Box 610  
Broken Arrow, OK 74013  
[www.brokenarrowok.gov](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov)

Wayne Bishop, Communications Coordinator  
Phone: 259-8277 Fax: 251-6642

### **City Workers Begin United Way Campaign**

After upping contributions to the United Way campaign last year by more than \$10,000 over 2001, the City of Broken Arrow will begin its efforts for 2003 next week when pledge cards are distributed to department heads.

Last summer the City served as one of the Tulsa Area Trailblazers for United Way, starting its campaign early and finishing just about the time others were starting. After raising more than \$35,000 in 2001, City workers brought in \$45,550 last year in its Trailblazing effort.

This year's City chairman, Tom Caldwell, said that a final goal for the City would be set next week. The official Tulsa Area United Way campaign will begin Thursday, Sept. 11, with the Day of Caring. There will be at least 23 City employees taking part in that project, some at Broken Arrow Seniors, Inc., and others at the Margaret Hudson School. Lisa Ford of the Police Department is once again in charge of rounding up volunteers for Day of Caring.

As in the past, City employees who commit to "Guideline Gifts" during the year will receive one day off with pay.

The City's "Fun Day" will be held Oct. 23 at the Community Center, with lunch starting at 11:30 a.m. Employees will do the cooking, with plenty of games scheduled inside and out during the afternoon.

Caldwell said that there will also be a United Way golf tournament hosted by the City on Nov. 11 at Battle Creek Golf Course. Cost for entries is \$50 per person, which includes cart and GPS system. He's hoping for 96 entries, and the field will not be limited to City employees. There will be hole sponsorships available and \$5 "Mulligans," which will help fund prizes and next year's Fun Day, in addition to the United Way drive.

Several departments will hold their own fundraisers, including the annual Finance Department Breakfast and Bake Sale.

Last year the Administrative employees led the way with \$8,644 in contributions. The Fire Department was a close second with \$8,582. Third was Public Works at \$7,465.

Individual departments will bring their goals to next week's United Way committee meeting so that a City goal can be set. Branon Dodd is the Co-Chair this year and will take over as Chairman next year.

## **Special Traffic Operations Keep Court Busy**

Two special traffic operations by Broken Arrow's Police Department in the final two weeks of August resulted in 742 citations for motorists – keeping the Court Clerk's office and Municipal Court extremely busy.

Sgt. Ed Ferguson of the City's Traffic Specialist Unit said this week that Operation Safe Streets (which began with the start of school on Aug. 14) resulted in a total of 712 citations, with 375 of those for speeding. There were 27 tickets written for speeding in school zones.

Operation Blue Talon over the Labor Day weekend resulted in 30 citations, seven for speeding. As Ferguson explained, the heavy rains over that weekend greatly reduced the amount of traffic normally present on the roads during that holiday period. "But the weather actually worked to our benefit," he added, "reducing the number of holiday travelers and resulting traffic problems. Only one significant injury collision was investigated in Broken Arrow during Operation Blue Talon." That, he said, was in a private driveway where a motorist was hit by his own vehicle after "failing to properly secure it."

Grant funding from the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office was used in both operations, with a total of 220 hours of enforcement shifts during peak periods of travel in the city. For the month of August, there were 1,249 citations written – 476 of those by grant-funded officers.

Of the 742 citations written during the two special operations, 456 were for moving violations, including speeding, failure to yield, failure to yield to emergency vehicles, reckless driving, disobeying traffic control devices, etc.

## **Community Center Takes Center Stage**

With the Family Aquatic Center closed until next May, Broken Arrow's Community Center now takes center stage with several big events.

The first is this Saturday (Sept. 6), with a Centennial Quilt Show from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Well over 100 quilts will be on display at the show, which ties in with the City's Centennial Celebration. That year-long event will come to an "official" close on Oct. 4 with the burial of a time capsule in Centennial Park.

On Thursday, Sept. 18 the Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Business Showcase at the Community Center, from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, and the event will feature booths of several Chamber members. As always, there will be plenty of "give-aways" and prizes during the event, along with an opportunity to learn more about the businesses of Broken Arrow.

There will be a double dose of special events at the Community Center on Saturday, Sept. 27, as it hosts the Antique Glass Show and the Main Street Merchants' Arts and Crafts Show from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Antique Glass Show is presented by the Tulsa Antique Bottle Club.

Although it won't be held at the Community Center, registration for the Broken Arrow Amateur Basketball program will be held Sept. 27 as well. Those games, of course, are played at the Community Center when league play begins, and many of the teams will be practicing there. Sign-ups will be held at the Broken Arrow Youth Sports Center, 1005 S. Main. Leagues are available for boys and girls in grades two through eight. Another sign-up will be held Oct. 4. Both registrations are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## **Great Hall Debuts with Dance**

After its official dedication Thursday, the Great Hall at Broken Arrow's Main Place will get put to use in a big way Friday night, hosting the first of the Broken Arrow Seniors, Inc., Friday Night Dance Club programs.

The Great Hall is an addition to The Main Place (1800 S. Main), which is the site of BASI offices and activities.

Dancing will be held each Friday night at the Hall, starting at 7 p.m. and running through 9:30. Darrell Magee and his group will provide the music at this first event. After the first dance, admission will be \$5 per person.

## **Survey Goes in Mail Next Week**

A survey giving citizens an opportunity to express opinions about potential hazards in the Broken Arrow community and how they're preparing their families or businesses for them will go in the mail to every address in the city next week.

In an effort to comply with federal government regulations and better prepare for potential disasters in the community, the City Engineering staff is distributing a Hazard Mitigation survey as part of the summer Focus newsletter.

The survey is part of the overall Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan being put together by the City – the first stage of a tactical scheduling guide that “recognizes and mitigates both natural and man-made hazards that threaten Broken Arrow citizens.”

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 became law in October of that year and sets up guidelines for such planning at the state and local level. The City's engineering department began researching for the planning process in October of 2002, and the City's Emergency Operations Team has put together an extensive guide book for responses to a variety of potential disasters or hazards.

Those filling out and returning (postage paid) the survey after it arrives will be helping the City “understand household preparedness for disasters.” Participation in the survey is voluntary, and all responses will be strictly confidential.

A committee of local citizens and City staff members will be going over results of the survey and helping develop additional programs to assist in preparations for the event of hazardous situations.

## **Community Development Site Praised**

Broken Arrow's Community Development section of a redesigned web site has come in for high praise from an area developer.

The new site, which was unveiled in June, includes a special section prepared specifically for engineers, architects and developers who are interested in building here. There are separate sections for Planning, Engineering, Inspections, Community Development and Stormwater Management.

Many of the forms which formerly had to be picked up at City Hall, mailed out or faxed, are now available on the web site. The Engineering Department will be adding more than a dozen new forms within the next two weeks.

One developer, not knowing the City's zoning ordinance was on the web site in its complete form, was told by Community Development Coordinator Don Slone where to find the information he wanted.

The professional reported back, "I'll tell you what I think: your 'Community Development' web site is first class! I've added it to my 'favorites' in my browser. I'm really impressed with all the information you've placed on-line. You've done a great job here, Don."